

NPIC/TAS/TSSG-318-68  
2 April 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Trip Report: [REDACTED] and Holloman AFB  
11-15 March 1968

1. [REDACTED] TSSG/TAS accompanied by [REDACTED] of HQ, Air Force Systems Command Reconnaissance Division, visited the [REDACTED] on 11-14 March. These same personnel visited Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico on 15 March. The purpose of the trip was to discuss NPIC requirements on the [REDACTED] high altitude drone system presently under development and to obtain a detailed orientation on the [REDACTED] series of drones with a specific request for some detailed data on the [REDACTED] drone system. The 154 drone system is nicknamed [REDACTED] and the operational imagery received from the [REDACTED] drone systems is presently called [REDACTED]

2. The [REDACTED] drone systems have been and are being built under a Quick Reaction Capability (QRC) program by-passing normal research and development channels. Contracting is controlled by the Air Force Logistics Command. The [REDACTED] drone system is being run through normal research and development channels and contracting is controlled by the Air Force Systems Command. The top command channel on both programs is [REDACTED] as Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Research and Development. The [REDACTED] program is run by Lt. Col. [REDACTED] from HQ USAF DCS Plans and Operations, Dir of Operations, Strategic Reconnaissance Branch (Pentagon) with Col. [REDACTED] as Special Projects Officer (Wright/Patterson AFB) and [REDACTED] as Programs Manager [REDACTED]. The 154 program is run by Col. [REDACTED] HQ USAF, Assistant for Reconnaissance (Pentagon) with Col. [REDACTED] Special Projects Officer (Wright/Patterson AFB). Lt. Col. [REDACTED] is HQ AFSC R&D coordinator. Col. [REDACTED] will soon be replaced by Col. [REDACTED]. The primary [REDACTED] on the programs are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] project manager; [REDACTED] camera systems engineer; and [REDACTED]. The time spent at [REDACTED] from 1400 hours 11 March to 1700 hours 14 March was divided into separate discussions with the [REDACTED] drone program personnel and the 147 drone programs personnel.

a. [REDACTED] Program - Discussions with [REDACTED] program personnel centered around NPIC requirements for identifying what flight system data was recorded and the accuracy of that data; the correlation of the recorded

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25X1A

25X1A data with the imagery; the final form in which the data will be  
25X1A made available; and the placement of a center of scan mark, plus  
two other marks on the imagery. It was agreed in the discussion  
at [REDACTED] and at a later meeting held at NPIC on 20 March that Col.  
[REDACTED] would make the recorded attitude data and the accuracy of  
this data available to NPIC and place a center of scan mark on  
the format which corresponds to the point on the recorded system  
data at which the frame number is recorded. This would correlate to  
within one second the recorded attitude data with the format center  
of scan mark. In addition because of the 50.25 inch format and the  
25X1A capability to transverse only 18 inches with present mensuration  
equipment, [REDACTED] agreed to place two additional marks on the  
format one each at 30 degrees left and right of center of scan.  
The recorded data will be processed to produce an alpha-numeric  
25X1A paper readout. [REDACTED] who is manufacturing the ground process-  
ing equipment, will investigate the additional cost involved in  
25X1A producing a computer compatible tape. A tour with a detailed  
explanation was made of the [REDACTED] production facility.

25X1A b. [REDACTED] Program - Discussions with [REDACTED] program personnel 25X1A  
related to a review of all 147 systems presently operational  
and underdevelopment with a specific requirement to obtain detailed 25X1A  
[REDACTED] system specifications. The specifications, to aid in the  
evaluation by NPIC of [REDACTED] imagery, were identified and obtained.  
In addition a meeting was called by [REDACTED] 25X1A  
and Messrs [REDACTED] to discuss why  
NPIC was performing an evaluation of 147-H imagery. 25X1A  
[REDACTED] described for [REDACTED] 25X1A  
how the question of imagery quality was brought to the attention  
of [REDACTED] Deputy Director for Reconnaissance,  
25X1A by [REDACTED] personnel and why [REDACTED]  
(DIA-XX2) to ask NPIC for an evaluation. A tour with a detailed 25X1A  
explanation was made of the [REDACTED] production facility which included all  
the [REDACTED] production drone series i.e. target, low altitude, night, decoy,  
25X1A and high altitude.

25X1A 4. The visit to Holloman Air Force Base presented an opportunity to  
look at and discuss the AFSC [REDACTED] drone test program and equipment. Items  
viewed included two 154 drones mounted under the wings of a C-130 launch  
aircraft; a helicopter containing MARS (Mid-Air Recovery Systems) equipment;  
and the electronic ground control recovery van. The chief flight engineer  
described how the various items functioned and in general the planned flight  
test program. 25X1A

25X1A 5. The trip proved to be very helpful toward solving some questions re-  
garding the [REDACTED] drone program and identifying for [REDACTED] and the Air Force items  
which if included in future systems would assist NPIC in obtaining the most  
from the collected imagery.

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25X1A

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[REDACTED]

Technical Activities Staff  
NPIC

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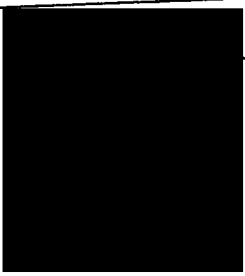
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CENTER ROUTING SLIP

66151-7

FROM: TAS / TSSG DATE: 4 April 68

TO	INITIALS	DATE	REMARKS
DIRECTOR			 <u>CM</u> <u>SK</u> <u>PRY</u> <u>RaB</u>
DEP/DIRECTOR			
EXEC/DIRECTOR			
SPECIAL ASST			
ASST TO DIR			
ASST TO DEP/DIR			
CH/PPBS			25X1A
DEP CH/PPBS			
EO/PPBS			
CH/IEG			
DEP CH/IEG			
EO/IEG			
CH/PSG			
DEP CH/PSG			
EO/PSG			
CH/DBD/PSG			
CH/TSSG	X		
DEP CH/TSSG			
EO/TSSG			
DIR/IAS/DDI			
CH/DIA/XX4			
CH/DIA/AP-1P			
CH/SPAD			

TSD

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